

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DLOS-09 L-03 CG-00
DOTE-00 SS-15 AGRE-00 /099 W
-----072309 110140Z /64

R 101740Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5933
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EEC EFIS
SUBJ: US/EC FISHERIES RELATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 79106 (B) STATE 79709 (C) BRUSSELS 6386

1, IN CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MINK AND
MISSION OFFICER APRIL 10, EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR GENERAL
FOR FISHERIES GALLAGHER INDICATED THAT THE COMMISSION HAS
NOT YET HEARD FROM FRANCE AND THE FRG RE WHETHER THOSE
COUNTRIES INTEND TO APPLY FOR PERMITS TO FISH THE ALLOCA-
TIONS THEY HAVE BEEN GRANTED IN US WATERS FOR 1978
(REFS A AND C). GALLAGHER THOUGHT THAT FRANCE AND FRG
FAILURE TO REPLY IS A REFLECTION OF THOSE COUNTRIES'
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OTHER MORE PRESSING FISHING CONCERNS AND OF THE LIKELI-
HOOD THAT THEIR FISHERMEN HAVE NOT YET MADE UP THEIR
MINDS ABOUT THE PROFITABILITY OF FISHING IN US WATERS
THIS YEAR. GALLAGHER SEEMED TO RECALL THAT FRENCH AND
GERMAN FISHERMAN HAD NOT BEGUN FISHING IN THE AFFECTED
US AREAS IN 1977 UNTIL ABOUT THE MONTH OF MAY.

2. WE REPEATED TO GALLAGHER THE US INTEREST IN OBTAINING FRENCH COOPERATION IN SHRIMP TAGGING PROJECT (REFS B AND C) IN FRENCH GUIANA FISHERY. NOTING THAT FISHERIES RESEARCH LIES WITHIN MEMBER STATE RATHER THAN EC COMPETENCE, GALLAGHER SUGGESTED THAT THE US ACTIVELY PURSUE THIS QUESTION WITH THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. (MISSION IS STILL TRYING TO SEE FRENCH PERMDEL OFFICIAL LOTT, WHO RETURNED TO BRUSSELS FROM LEAVE ONLY LAST WEEK . WE RENEW OUR RECOMMENDATION, PARA 3 OF REF C, THAT EMBASSY PARIS BE INSTRUCTED TO RAISE THIS QUESTION WITH THE GOF.) GALLAGHER SAID THAT THE COMMISSION ITSELF FAVORS ANY PROJECT LIKE THE US SHRIMP TAGGING PROPOSAL DESIGNED TO ADD TO THE COMMON STORE OF SCIENTIFIC DATA ON FISH STOCKS, AND SAID THAT THE COMMISSION HAS IN THE PAST MADE THIS POINT TO THE FRENCH AND OTHER EC MEMBERS. HE REPEATED, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE INSTANT CASE THE US SHOULD PURSUE THE MATTER WITH THE GOF.

3. MISSION OFFICER ASKED WHETHER COMMISSION HAS ADVANCED ITS THINKING ON CONVENING A REGIONAL CONFERENCE LOOKING TOWARD A REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON SHRIMP FISHING IN THE CARABBEAN AND IN THE WATERS OFF SOUTH AMERICAN (BRUSSELS 2005, PARA 4). GALLAGHER REPLIED THAT THE COMMISSION IS STILL INTERESTED IN HOSTING SUCH A MEETING AND HAS POSED TWO QUESTIONS TO THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT: (1) WOULD BRAZIL BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN SUCH A MEETING?

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AND (2) IF THE ANSWER TO THE FOREGOING IS NEGATIVE, WOULD BRAZIL HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO THE COMMISSION'S HOSTING SUCH A MEETING OF OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES? GALLAGHER SAID THAT THE COMMISSION ASSUMES A NEGATIVE REONSE TO QUESTION NUMBER ONE, AND SHOULD BRAZIL REPLY NEGATIVELY TO NUMBER TWO AS WELL, THE COMMISSION WILL DROP THE IDEA OF CALLING SUCH A CONFERENCE. MORRIS

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